GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2913
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2001
HIGH YIELDING SEEDS
RAGHUNATH JHA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various schemes for developing higher yielding variety of seeds of crops have been launched;

(b) if so, the achievement of those schemes in the matter of production and productivity;

(c) whether crores of rupees have been invested during 1992-97 on dissemination and distribution of seeds to popularise new high yielding varieties of seeds;

(d) whether 90 per cent of those seeds indented and distributed were of varieties older than 10-25 years;

(e) if so, the inquiry conducted into it and the responsibility and accountability fixed therefor; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) Yes, Sir. The scheme for developing high yielding varieties and hybrids is a major research activity in all Crop Research Institutes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the State Agricultural Universities (SAUs).The ICAR and SAUs are continuing the efforts to increase crop productivity and quality through developing improved hybrids and varieties in all crop plants of economic importance. Our scientists are the first to develop hybrid technology in pearl millet, castor, cotton and pigeonpea. The country not only have an intensive programme on genetic upgradation of crop varieties for higher productivity and better quality but also have one of the largest networked programme for testing these varieties under the All India Coordinated Crop Research projects.This project which is an excellent example of Centre-State collaboration, have so far given rewarding results in indentifying varieties adapted to different regions and crop growing conditions.

(b) During the period 1991-92 to 1998-99, the production and productivity increased in all major crops. This has created a significant impact on the national agriculture during this period. The increase in production and per hectare yield in some of the major crops are presented in Annexure-I.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir. Nearly 53-57 % of the varieties indented and distributed during the year 1992-1997 are those released and notified during the preceeding ten year period.

(e) Question does not arise under the circumstances explained above.

(f) Question does not arise under the circumstances explained above.

Annexure - I

Changes In the Production and yield of major crops during the flve Years(1991-92 to 1998-99)

Sl. No.	Crop	Production (Million tonnes)		Productivity (Kg/ha)	
		1991-92	1998-99	1991-92	1998-99
1.	Rice	74.68	86.08	1751	1921

2.	Wheat	55.69	71.29	2394	2590
3.	Coarse Cereals	25.99	31.34	778	1068
4.	Oilseeds	18.60	25.21	719	944
5.	Pulses	12.02	14.81	533	622
6.	Sugarcane	254.00	295.73	66,069	72,560
7	Cotton	9.71	12.18	216	223
8.	Jute & Mesta	10.29	9.70	1662	1720
9.	Tobacco	0.58	0.70	1369	1522
10.	Vegetable	58.53	87.53	10,500	14,900
11.	Potato	16.39	22.50	15,900	18,500
12.	Banana	7.79	15.07	20,300	32,500
13.	Grapes	0.66	1.08	20,600	25,400
14.	Papaya	0.80	1.58	17,800	23,400